Programme (RNTCP) which is a WHO recommended DOTS strategy is being implemented in the country in a phased manner since 1997. Till date 700 million population of the country has already been covered under the revised strategy. It is envisaged to cover 850 million populations under the revised strategy by 2004 and the entire population by 2005.

The project districts are reporting treatment success rate of more than 80% which means that more than 8 out of every 10 patients detected and put on treatment on the revised strategy are successfully treated as against less than 4 in the earlier programme.

In Orissa, out of 30 districts, DOTS strategy is being implemented in the 16 tribal districts. The remaining 14 districts are undergoing preparatory activities for adoption of revised strategy.

High Blood Pressure among kids

2748. SHRI RAJU PARMAR : will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware on incidence of high blood pressure among kids;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that children between the age group of 12-18 have diseases like high cholesterol, high BP and are under-weight or over-weight, besides having other problems; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take to provide adequate medical facilities to children in the country, and how much grant Government are receiving per annum from the World Health Organisation and UNICEF?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) According to a published epidemiologica[1] study of blood pressure in school children (5-14 years) in Delhi, the prevalence of Hypertension among school children was around 12% in boys and 11.4% in girls. The study covered both Government and Public Schools and included all social economic groups.

As per the ICMR funded study conducted on adolescents belonging to affluent families, high systolic blood pressure among children was found in about 30% and high diastolic blood pressure was found 16.7% children in the age group of 13-18 years of 5 South Delhi Public Schools. As per

the study in a sample of 773 children, high cholresterol was observed in 5.8% children in the age group of 13-18 years of five public schools of South Delhi. The percentage of over weight children was about 15% and the percentage of the under weight children was 30.5% in the same group. The studies require detailed analysis before coming to a conclusion.

(d) Providing medicine for needy including children is the responsibility of the State Government. However, Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing medicine/grants etc. through various schemes and programmes devised for the purpose. Hypertension is a condition associated with life-style factors and obesity among children. Obesity is generally caused by excessive food intake, improper eating habits and lack of physical activity. Education of children to be physically active and follow balanced diets are important steps towards prevention and management of this disorder.

Amendment of Transplantation of Human Organs Act

2749. SHRIJANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the backdrop of the recent case of death of an organ donor, there is a demand for amendment and redefining of the Transplanation of Human Organs Act, 1994; and

(b) if so, the detail in this regard and Government's reacton thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The Government has received certain suggestions to improve the legal framework in respect of organ transplantation. The Government is committed to effectively implementation of the various provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 and addresses impediments in the way of effective implementation of the said Act.

Fee hike in medical colleges

†2750. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AMD FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fees have been raised by the private medical colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.